

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of)

Applicants: Raja Chatterjee et al.)

Serial No. 09/496,086)

Filed: February, 1 2000)

Title: Indexing and Searching MultiMedia-Rich
Web Pages)Examiner
Peter J. Smith

Art Unit 2176

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JUN 07 2004

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE**OFFICIAL**STATUS OF THIS APPLICATION

This application was finally rejected in an Office Action mailed on October 22, 2003 and a Notice of Appeal of that rejection was filed on February 21, 2004. On April 22, 2004, applicant's filed a response to the outstanding Office Action in lieu of a brief on appeal since the response was believed to render the issues on appeal moot.

The response of April 22, 2004 requested withdrawal of the outstanding final rejection because the principal cited reference that had been relied upon in making the final rejection is a patent owned by the assignee of this application and is hence not available as prior art in support of the outstanding Section 103 obviousness rejection.

The April 22, 2004 response submitted a Notice of Recordation and copies of the assignments of this application and the application for the cited Patent 6,549,922 (U.S. Application Serial No. 09/410,781) showing that these applications were commonly owned by Oracle Corporation. It was pointed out that, as provided by 35 U.S.C. 103(c), the cited Patent 6,549,922 cannot preclude patentability under Section 103(a). Section 103(c) states.

(c) Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under one or more of subsections (e), (f), and (g) of section 102 of this title, shall not preclude patentability under this section where the subject matter